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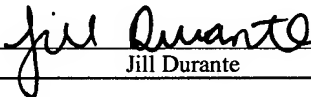
**in the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Appl. No.: 10/019,007 Confirmation No. 5920  
Applicant(s): Grutzmann *et al.*  
Filed: 12/21/2001  
TC/A.U.: 1617  
Examiner: Hui, San Ming R  
Docket No.: Le A 33 846  
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**CERTIFICATION OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any papers referred to as attached are being deposited, on the date shown below, with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: July 14, 2004

  
Jill Durante

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office action dated April 14, 2004. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.